



NYCTIMENE TRYONI Longman.

A NEW NYCTIMENE FROM SOUTH QUEENSLAND.

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(Plate XII.)

THROUGH the kindly interest of Mr. Henry Tryon, Government Entomologist, the Queensland Museum obtained on October 1, 1920, a new species of *Nyctimene* secured by Mr. D. Lahey at Canungra, near the boundary of our National Park in the Macpherson Range, South Queensland.

Two species of *Nyctimene* (*N. papuanus* and *N. robinsoni* from Cape York and Cooktown respectively) have been previously recorded from North Queensland, but the occurrence of this genus south of Brisbane is somewhat surprising. Since the publication of Knud Andersen's masterly Catalogue of the Chiroptera, vol i, by the British Museum authorities in 1912, the determination of our Megachiroptera has been simplified. Fourteen species have been described, the majority being from Papua and the surrounding islands.

The absence of lower incisors, the presence of tubular nasal appendages, yellow spots in the membranes, a dark dorsal stripe, together with the four circumvallate papillæ, form striking and unmistakable generic characteristics.

NYCTIMENE TRYONI n. sp.

Allied to *N. robinsoni* O. Thomas, but readily distinguished by its general larger size, by the smaller and more circular ears, the greater length (chiefly contained in the metacarpal) of the second digit, the longer tibia, the shorter tail, and other features as set out.

Measured in the flesh, the length from head to tail-tip is 105 mm., and the approximate diameter across wings is 200.

General colour above smoke-gray (Ridgway); bases of the hairs gray: a narrow dark spinal stripe is present; hairs about 10 mm. in length; on the ventral surface the prevailing colour is fawn, but the tips of the hairs give a silver-gray effect; the fur on the flanks and to the proximal third of the forelimbs becomes fulvous. The characteristic yellow spots of the genus are sparsely distributed on the membranes, but are not so large as in our specimens of *papuanus* and *geminus*.

The ears are evenly rounded, and the antero-lateral margin is scalloped. The tongue has the typical four circumvallate papillæ, the posterior pair being much closer together than the anterior; reflexed tridentate papillæ are present on the median anterior portion. About 20 ridges are developed on the palate; with the exception of the anterior ridge, the first 14 are convex, 3 are fairly straight, the posterior ridges being undulating. There appear to be no very

remarkable dental or cranial characteristics. As in *N. robinsoni*, the interorbital portions of the frontals are considerably swollen. The posterior edge of the bony palate is subtriangular. No secondary cusps are developed from the cingulum of the upper canines. Posterior heels are well developed in the third and fourth upper and lower premolars, and the usual inner cusp is present on the third. In transverse section the crowns of p^4 and m^3 are subequal. The angular processes of the mandible are prominent outwardly. An angle of 120° to the base line is formed by the coronoid process.

The specimen is fully adult, and there are no signs of the premaxillary sutures.

Measurements.

Forearm	68
Pollex—	
Total length with claw	32
Metacarpal	16
1st phalanx	12
2nd digit—	
Metacarpal	38
1st phalanx	6
2nd-3rd phalanx, with claw	11
3rd digit—	
Metacarpal	50
1st phalanx	37
2nd phalanx	46
4th digit—	
Metacarpal	45
1st phalanx	28
2nd phalanx	30
5th digit—	
Metacarpal	49
1st phalanx	24
2nd phalanx	26
Ear—	
Length from orifice	16
Greatest breadth, flattened	12
Tail	23
Free portion from dorsal surface	13
Tibia	28
Foot, with claw	17
Calcar	9

Cranial and dental:

Skull—

Lambda to gnathion	..	..	..	..	..	36
Condylø-basal length	..	..	..	..	..	34
Palation to incisive foramina	..	..	..	..	..	15.5
Palation to basion	..	..	..	..	..	14.5
Rostrum, length orbit to nares	..	..	..	..	..	7.5
Rostrum, height at alv. of canine	..	..	..	..	..	8
Width of brain-case at zygomata	..	..	..	..	..	15
Zygomatic width	..	..	..	..	..	23
Across crowns of m^1 - m^1 , externally	..	..	..	..	..	11
Lachrymal width	..	..	..	..	..	9
Across crowns of canines, externally	..	..	..	..	..	7
Premaxillæ, depth at symphysis	..	..	..	..	..	3.5
Postorbital width	..	..	..	..	..	5.5
Interorbital width	..	..	..	..	..	6.5
Mesepterygoid fossa, width	..	..	..	..	..	5.25
Between p^1 - p^1	..	..	..	..	..	6.5
Between bases of canines	..	..	..	..	..	2.5
Orbital diameter	..	..	..	..	..	9.5

Mandible—

Length from condyle	..	..	..	..	..	25.25
Height at coronoid	..	..	..	..	..	16.0
Upper teeth, c - m^1 , crowns	..	..	..	..	..	13.2
Lower teeth, c - m^2 , crowns	..	..	..	..	..	15

Type in Queensland Museum, Reg. No. *J. 3436*, adult male. Type locality: Canungra, South Queensland.

This latest addition to our non-marsupial mammals is almost certainly descended from early Papuan emigrants, but it has been sufficiently long in the land to become specifically distinct.

A specimen of *N. papuanus* from Cape York in our collections has the forearm 60 mm. in length, being slightly larger than Knud Andersen's maximum. In view of the revision in the latest monograph, Edgar R. Waite's record of "*Uronycteris cephalotes*" (Records Austr. Mus., iv, 1912, p. 144) should probably be attributed to either *N. robinsoni* or *papuanus*.